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"And if we suppose perihelion passage November 20, we have for April 1,—

Right Ascension, $2^h\ 14^m\cdot9$. North Polar Distance, 92° 26′.
Distance from earth, 3·27
" sun, 2·42

"The comet must, therefore, be situate in strong twilight; but, perhaps Mr. Lassell, Mr. Hartnup, or Professor Challis, may think it worth while to look at the neighbourhood. I am prevented here by trees."

On the Expected Comet of 1264 and 1556. By Mr. Hind.*

"Mr. Barber, who was recently elected a Fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society, and who undertook to continue the calculation of the perturbations of the comet of 1556, which I had commenced in 1848, has just sent me a notification of one of his results, which appears to show that the comet may not be due for some time to come; at any rate, it renders a close and systematic research very desirable. Mr. Barber finds that the effect of the attraction of *Jupiter*, *Saturn*, and *Uranus*, from 1556 to 1592, and of *Jupiter* alone to 1806 (including the aphelion portion of the orbit), will *retard* the comet no less than 750 days; and there can, I think, be very little doubt that *Saturn* and *Uranus* will delay it still longer.

"Mr. Barber is computing the disturbances produced by *Saturn* up to 1806, but has not yet completed them. The 750 days added to the time of arrival at perihelion, supposing T unaltered, brings us up to April; but even this must be too early, if the major-axis in 1556 corresponded to the periodic time from 1264 to 1556; and I think there is as much reason to suppose it longer as shorter than the value thus found.

"My object in writing to you is to apprise you of Mr. Barber's results, in case you think there are other observers, with telescopes of sufficient power, who would be willing to look out for the comet. I find it is most convenient to project the calculated places on a chart: it is then easy to see in what *line* the comet should be sought, on any particular date, according to different hypotheses respecting the time of arrival at perihelion.

"I think what is most wanted is an ephemeris for distances of (say) 140 or 150 days from perihelion passage, for at this time of the year the part of the heavens where the comet is to be sought will be near opposition.

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* As the *Notice* is going to press, Mr. Hind informs me that he has reason to believe the return of this comet may be delayed by perturbation *for some years*. I have therefore suppressed the *sweeping* ephemerides which he had computed on the supposition that the perihelion passage of the planet might be expected next autumn. A further account of this comet may be expected from Mr. Hind very shortly.—*Ed. M. N.*

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"In a day or two I will send you positions for April, on the supposition that the comet will arrive at perihelion in August, September, and October. I had, for the sake of convenience, laid down the places on a chart, which is much the best plan for practical purposes, but any one may do this when they are furnished with the computed positions.

"My ephemeris I will send as soon as possible. Mr. Barber has worked very hard on this comet, and has been compelled to use various artifices to shorten the work, some of which I believe to be new. Thus, at the aphelion, he has proceeded by equal intervals of *true* anomaly, and one or two changes have been made in the usual application of the formulæ of integration. I will ask him to send you an account of his work, as it is right the trouble he has taken should be appreciated.

"By far the largest perturbations occur at great distances from the sun. I knew this had happened in the case of Halley's comet, which was my reason for supposing that the comet of 1556 would furnish another instance, since the *cause* must be more powerful in the latter case."

Note from M. O. Struve to G. B. Airy, Esq. Astronomer Royal, and President of the Royal Astronomical Society.

"To my note on the parallax of Groombridge, 1830, I must make an addition. I have found a third system of equations, in which the conditions of the systems I. and II. have been combined as well as possible. The resolution of the new equations has given the following results:—

The parallax	= + 0″·034	with the probable error	0″·029
The proper motion in declination	− 5·748	——	0·024

These values must be regarded as the definitive result of my research.

"1850, *Jan.* 3."

Extract of a Letter from Mr. Lowe on Zodiacal Light, as seen at Highfield House, near Nottingham.

"As some curious features have been noticed in the '*Western Light*,' whether it be the zodiacal light or another phenomenon, a brief extract from my journal has been thought to be acceptable.

Epoch 1850, February $13^{d}\ 7^{h}\ 30^{m}$.

"The zodiacal light was certainly more brilliant to-night than it has been for the last seven years (*i. e.* as far as my observations extend); it exceeded the brightness of the milky way about the *Swan*, which was the part compared with it. *Saturn* was about 2° within its southern edge, and its apex must have had an altitude equal to that of the *Pleiades*. Unfortunately clouds came over before any bearings were made. *Saturn* was thought to be dimmed by it.

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